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Work and Workers.

DR. LYMAN ABBOTT is publishing in the *Outlook* a series of articles on "The Life and Letters of Paul."

DR. JOHN HENRY BARROWS delivered his lecture on "Natural Religion" at Harvard University February 18.

DR. SELAH MERRILL has been reappointed United States consul at Jerusalem, a post which he has formerly filled with distinction.

THE editors of THE BIBLICAL WORLD would like to know the address of Rev. John Gray, who some time ago sent them an article for publication.

"A WORKINGMEN'S Bible Class" of two hundred and fifty is the one distinguishing feature of the Ruggles Street Baptist Church of Boston.

REV. GEO. L. ROBINSON, PH.D., Professor of Old Testament Exegesis in Knox College, Toronto, has been called to, and has accepted, the same chair in McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago.

UNIFORM prayer-meeting topics for 1899 have already been adopted by the Baptist Young People's Union of America, the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, and the Epworth League.

The Christ of Yesterday, Today, and Forever is the title of a new volume by Rev. Ezra H. Byington, D.D., whose fame has already been established by his *The Puritan in England and New England*.

THE Chicago Bible Society is taking steps to issue, in as cheap form as the Authorized Version, the Revised Version. This will answer a loud call from the more intelligent Bible students and workers.

REV. FRANCIS H. ROWLEY, of the First Baptist Church, Fall River, Mass., has been delivering a series of addresses to the Men's Club of the church upon Christ's teaching upon various social matters. This sort of organization and preaching is especially fitted for Sunday evenings and need not be confined to city churches. The Congregational Church of Morris, Ill., is successfully pursuing the same plan.

REV. J. L. CAMPBELL, Pastor of Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, New York city, is the conductor of an educational and pleasure pilgrimage to Palestine and southern Europe. The party, especially designed for pastors, will sail March 5.

DR. J. J. DOEDES, formerly professor of New Testament exegesis in the University of Utrecht, died December 16 at the advanced age of eighty years. The New Testament chairs of the Universities of Utrecht, Groningen, and Leyden are today filled by former pupils of Dr. Doedes.

PROFESSOR DR. A. SCHLATTER has been called from Berlin to a newly established sixth chair of theology in the University of Tübingen. This was done in response to loud popular demand in Würtemberg for an element of conservatism in a faculty almost wholly made up of men of the liberal type.

THE Moody Bible classes are a phenomenon in Chicago. As reported in the *Standard* of February 12, there are in all five classes during the week, omitting, of course, Wednesday evening, which is Chicago's church prayer meeting night. In these five classes the average weekly attendance is 3,700. They represent 300 religious organizations, and twenty-five denominations. Every class of society is represented, including even ministers and theological students. A great and renewed interest in Bible reading and study is reported in the most unexpected quarters, and by the unlikeliest of people.

A NEW hospital erected in the suburbs of Jerusalem by the London Society for the Spread of the Gospel among Jews is meeting serious opposition from the Jewish population, instigated by the rabbis. The hospital was opened in the city years ago, and was so largely patronized by the Jewish people as to make necessary a larger building for their accommodation. The cause of their opposition was the following inscription: "Hospital of the Society for Spread of Christianity among Jews." This aroused the indignation of the rabbis, who issued a powerful edict against the institution, threatening with ban any Jew who enters it as a patient or attendant.

THE Young Men's Christian Association of Bridgeport, Conn., maintains a very successful Bible school. Its courses are of three divisions: devotional, practical, and evangelistic. Beginning with a class of six men, it has grown in four years to a membership of 246. The majority of the teachers have been graduates of the training

school in Springfield. The work is under the general supervision of J. W. Cook, the secretary, to whom much of its success is due.

The following are some of the courses: "Miracles of our Lord," "The Life of Christ," "Men of the Bible," "General View of the Bible." In addition there are special courses for workers.

YIDDISH is the jargon of European Jews. It is a conglomerate of Judeo-German, containing a residuum of Hebrew words and phrases, and abounding in colloquial expressions from various quarters of the world. The Hebrew scriptures have never been translated into this curious tongue, and so have never been accessible to the pure Yiddish population of the continent. It now appears that a Jewish missionary of the city of London mission has translated the whole of the Old Testament into a purified Yiddish. It is now merely the question of raising funds to publish this work—and they should be forthcoming instantly—when this exceedingly important work will be distributed among the millions of Yiddish-speaking Jews in Europe and America.

DR. CARL W. BELSER died in Denver, Colo., January 25, 1898. He was best known to Semitic scholars through his elaborate treatment of the "Babylonische Kudurru-Inschriften," his dissertation at the University of Leipzig, published in the *Beiträge zur Assyriologie*, Vol. II, pp. 111-203. Upon his return from Germany he occupied the chair of Semitics at the University of Michigan. But frail health compelled him to seek a more exhilarating clime. He went to the University of Colorado, at Boulder, where he occupied the chair of Latin. But the hoped-for release never came, and in the midst of an unbounded energy for work—with a commentary on Quintilian well under way—he laid down his pen, and his life work. He was buried at Boulder, Colo., January 27, 1898.

THE Bible is a new text-book in China. The following incident is evidence that the conservatism of China is yielding to Christian enlightenment: Heretofore, in the examination of students for the master's degree in that country, the questions have been on literary lines, and limited to the literature of China. This year, by imperial edict, the questions asked and answered related to matters of importance at the present time, and the following question was read by 10,000 students in one of the examination halls: "What do you know of the re peopling of the earth by Noah and his family after the flood?" It is said that the statesmen, scholars, and students of China are studying the Bible, because it is the classic of Christian countries, and the

Pekin examiners who framed the above question had been reading the Old Testament, which is now recommended as a text-book, and there is an increasing demand for it.

DR. JOHN DEWITT, of the American Old Testament Revision Company, makes public some important items respecting the American Revised Version, in the *Independent* of February 3. The surviving members of the Revision Company have been actively at work since the issuance of the Revised Version in 1885, making corrections and embodying in the text the preferences of the American committee. It has been popularly supposed that all these were to be found in the appendix of the Revised Version, but we are happy to say that it contains only a part of them.

The "agreement" between the British and American companies barred the American committee from printing other than the official Revised Version of 1885 for a period of fourteen years, *i. e.*, until 1899.

THE Merriam Park Presbyterian Church of St. Paul, Minn., has maintained for several years a Neighborhood Bible Class, whose work is of such a sort as to show the possibilities of such an organization in any church when properly conducted. The work for the coming year lies wholly within the Sermon on the Mount, which is believed to have a special message for the Christian men of today, and to be especially pertinent to times when social and industrial issues are conspicuous, and when men are honestly striving to know what is comprehended in the kingdom of God, as Christ used the term. The class meets every two weeks, and each session begins with devotional exercises, which are followed by a word study of some portion of the Sermon on the Mount. The remainder of the meeting consists of papers upon matters related to the teaching of Jesus, with review of books bearing upon the general subject of the relation of the teaching of Jesus to social matters.

PROFESSOR BONWETSCH, of the University of Göttingen, according to the daily press, has translated into German *The Apocalypse of Abraham*, an English version of which is now announced. He found it in a roll of parchment in the library at Moscow, Russia, written in old Slavic. He has traced the story back to a manuscript of the fifth century, also in the Moscow library (No. 172). Professor Bonwetsch says: "We have not been able to discover any version other than the old Slavic, but, judging from its literary form, it must go back to a Greek original not yet discovered."

Part of Professor Bonwetsch's translation, showing the style and kind of narrative, follows: "The book of the revelation of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, son of Serug, the son of Roog, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, the son of Methusaleh, the son of Enoch, the son of Arad.

"On the day when I polished the gods of Terah, and the gods of Nahor, his brother, when I thought, who is truly the strongest god, I, Abraham, at the time of my offering, when I had finished making the sacrifice of my father, Terah, to his gold, silver, brazen, and iron gods; going into their temple for service, I found the god called Marumath (made of hewn stone) fallen forward at the feet of Nahor's iron god."

THE New York Biblical Institute has been organized to provide "opportunity for post-graduate study and research in various branches of theological science at nominal cost, and with such arrangement and schedule as shall take into consideration the multitudinous demands and interruptions incidental to a busy pastor." The directorship aims to be made up of one representative of each of the principal denominations of the city. Dr. J. T. Duryea is dean of the faculty, Rev. J. Baumeister is secretary. Monday afternoons are the lecture seasons of the institute. During February, March, April, and May there will be two lectures each Monday, one by an expert, somewhat critical in nature, and the other by a well-known and experienced person, on some practical theme. For February the following is found in the schedule: February 7, "Scholarship in Exegesis," by Rev. J. Baumeister; "The Ultimate Aim of the Preacher's Study of Scripture," by Dr. Duryea; February 14, "The Pastor in the Sick-room," by Dr. Wm. J. Peck; "The Religious Condition of Western Europe in the Fifteenth Century, I. The Church," by Dr. S. M. Jackson; February 21, the same themes continued by the same lecturers; February 28, "Some Progressive Church Methods," by Rev. A. E. Meyers; and Dr. Jackson delivering the third part of his general theme.

The initial meeting was held February 7. It is hoped later to draft into service the numerous theological experts of New York and vicinity.